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Agenda items 10, 12, 32, 40, 43, 71, 97 (u) and 108

Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

Prevention of armed conflict

Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Culture of peace

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General and complete disarmament: confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Sixty-first year

Letter dated 24 May 2006 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the Kyiv Declaration on the establishment of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM (ODED-GUAM) (see annex I), a GUAM Summit communiqué (see annex II) and the Joint Declaration of the Heads of State of ODED-GUAM on the issue of conflict settlement (see annex III), adopted by the Presidents of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine at the GUAM Summit held in Kyiv on 23 May 2006.

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We should be grateful if the present letter and its annexes could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 10, 12, 32, 40, 43, 71, 97 (u) and 108 of the agenda of its sixtieth session, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Valeriy **Kuchinsky**
Permanent Representative of Ukraine

(*Signed*) Yashar **Aliyev**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan

(*Signed*) Revaz **Adamia**
Permanent Representative of Georgia

(*Signed*) Vsevolod **Grigore**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova

Annex I to the letter dated 24 May 2006 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

KYIV DECLARATION ON ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR DEMOCRACY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - GUAM

The Heads of State of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine,

Being guided by the norms and principles of international law, the provisions enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the fundamental documents of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and also, the Yalta Charter and the Chisinau Declaration of the GUAM,

Reasserting the dedication to democratic values, full respect for human rights and freedoms, supremacy of the rule of law, both in internal and external affairs, the principles of equality, mutual respect and mutually beneficial cooperation,

Emphasizing common aspiration to expedite advancement toward European integration,

Expressing our deep concern with regard to continuing conflicts and the growing threat to security, stemming out from international terrorism, aggressive separatism and extremism and the related negative phenomena,

Reaffirming commitment to contribute to strengthening the international peace, security and stability on the basis of respect of the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of internationally recognized borders of the States,

Stressing the significance of deepening economic cooperation, inter alia in the spheres of energy, transport and trade to promote further development and improvement of well-being of their nations,

Highly valuing the spiritual and cultural heritage of people of their states and expressing interest to develop cooperation in humanitarian sphere, particularly in the areas of culture, science, education, healthcare, youth exchange, tourism and sports,

Emphasizing the growing role of regional cooperation in pan-European processes;

1. Declare establishment of an International Regional Organization – "Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM" (hereinafter referred to as GUAM) with Secretariat in Kyiv.

2. Stress that GUAM's activities are aimed at the enhancement of democracy, adherence to the rule of law, respect for fundamental human rights and freedoms, economic development of States and assuring of security and stability.

3. Reaffirm the need to enhance action to support sustainable development of the GUAM States through dynamic economic growth, social concord and protection of the environment.

4. Declare their intention to cooperate actively in settlement of unresolved conflicts in a number of GUAM States that undermine sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of those States, impeding the full-scale implementation of democratic reforms and economic development of the region, negatively impact European integration processes and challenge the world community.

5. Express their readiness to further enhance cooperation in combating international terrorism, extremism and aggressive separatism and other related negative phenomena.

6. Stand for deepening of economic, commercial and transport cooperation of the GUAM States and declare the beginning of the implementation of the Free Trade Area Agreement.

7. Declare on inadmissibility of the economic pressure and monopolization of energy market, and emphasize the need to activize efforts to ensure energy security, including by means of diversifying routes of transportation of energy resources from Central Asia and Caspian regions to the European market.

8. Support utmost use of the international transit capacity of the GUAM States to ensure also sustainable supply of energy resources.

9. Express readiness to develop cooperation in the humanitarian sphere, particularly in the areas of culture, science, education, healthcare, youth exchange, tourism and sports.

10. Reaffirm the strive of the GUAM States to deepen European integration and enhance relations with the European Union and NATO.

11. Emphasize willingness of the GUAM States to further develop partnership relations with the United States of America and other States and organizations, in particular, to implement joint projects.

12. Declare that the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM is open for accession of other States which share its goals and principles.

Kyiv, 23 May 2006

Annex II to the letter dated 24 May 2006 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

GUAM SUMMIT COMMUNIQUÉ

23 May 2006, Kyiv

On 23 May 2006 Presidents of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine took part at the GUAM Summit in Kyiv (Ukraine). Presidents of Lithuania and Poland, Vice-President of Bulgaria, and high-level representatives of Romania, Kazakhstan, the USA and also, of international organizations, such as the OSCE, BSEC and diplomatic missions, participated in the Summit as guests.

The Heads of State expressed gratitude to President Vladimir Voronin for the successful chairmanship of Moldova in the GUAM during the preceding period. In accordance with the decision of the Summit, Ukraine has taken over the chairmanship.

The Heads of GUAM States reviewed the implementation of the decisions adopted at the 2005 Chisinau Summit, perspectives of development of interaction in the context of ensuring democracy, stability and development in the region, cooperation in the spheres of economy, energy, trade, transport and security, and also, development of cooperation with other States and international organizations.

The Heads of GUAM States emphasized with satisfaction that over the last year the necessary mechanisms have been created to ensure successful cooperation, thus enabling to step into a new stage of cooperation with involvement of other states and international organizations. They reaffirmed determination of their countries to take consistent and consolidated efforts to implement decisions of the Chisinau Declaration "In the name of democracy, stability and development".

The Heads of State noted the high level of cooperation within the Parliamentary Assembly of GUAM and called the Assembly to actively contribute to the institutional consolidation of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Cooperation - GUAM.

They stressed importance of regular meetings of the secretaries of councils of national security and defense with the purpose of preparation of proposals for cooperation in the spheres of security and economy.

The participants of the Summit paid special attention to challenges and threats of modern time: international terrorism, aggressive separatism and extremism, and transnational organized crime.

It was emphasized that these threats, as well as unresolved conflicts and illegal presence of foreign troops and armaments in GUAM States are recognized as main obstacles on the way to full-scale democratic transformations and economic development in the region.

The participants of the meeting reviewed the processes of settlement of conflicts in GUAM States since the time of the Chisinau Summit.

They noticed positive shifts in the implementation of step-by-step Plan of settlement of the Transnistrian conflict "To settlement through democracy", presented at the Chisinau Summit, including continuation of negotiation process with participation of USA and EU. They positively assessed the EU Mission activities related to the provision of assistance on the Ukrainian-Moldovan state border.

The Heads of State gave high appraisal and stressed the necessity to implement the Plan of peaceful settlement of the conflict in Tskhinvali region/South Osetia, Georgia, presented by Georgia and supported by the OSCE Council of Ministers in Ljubljana on 5 December 2005. Signing of the agreements between Georgia and the Russian Federation on the terms of withdrawal of the Russian military bases and transit of the armaments subject to withdrawal was mentioned with satisfaction.

The Heads of State called for implementation of the UNSC resolutions regarding the conflict in and around the Nagorny Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan and of the principles of settlement of this conflict, elaborated at the OSCE Lisbon Summit. A hope for effective continuation of the negotiation process based on the above mentioned documents was expressed.

The Heads of State decided to enhance interaction with the view to intensify the processes of settlement of conflicts and adopted a Joint Declaration on these issues.

The participants of the Summit highly assessed the level of interaction in combating terrorism, organized crime, drug trafficking and other dangerous types of crimes. They welcomed the Joint Statement of the law enforcement authorities of the GUAM Member States as a result of the meeting in Kyiv on 22 May 2006, and signing by the Heads of Border Services of the Protocol Concerning Cooperation Between Operation Bodies of Border Services of the GUAM States in the framework of the Summit.

The Heads of State welcomed the start of implementation of the Trade and Transport Facilitation Project (TTFP) and the establishment of the Virtual Center for combating terrorism and the Interstate Information Management System (VC/IIMS) Project, implemented with support of a Euroatlantic Advisory Team and the SECI Center. They also welcome the beginning of implementation of the Agreement on Free Trade Area.

The Heads of State expressed their appreciation to the US Government for effective assistance in implementation of the said projects and other programs within the GUAM. They welcomed adoption of the GUAM-United States Joint Statement at the Summit and pointed out the necessity to interact in the implementation of these projects.

The importance of development of mutually beneficial contacts between GUAM and the European Union, and also, with regional organizations, programs and initiatives, such as the BSEC, the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, the Visegrad Group, the South Eastern European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) and others, was stressed.

The perspective of further cooperation of GUAM States in the UN and OSCE was underlined, and necessity to use this experience in other international organizations was emphasized. They welcomed adoption of GUAM action plans for cooperation within the UN and OSCE.

The Heads of State underscored the importance of development of cooperation in the humanitarian sphere, including culture, education, health care, youth exchange, tourism and sports. They also welcomed signing of the Agreement between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the GUAM States for training of diplomatic representatives.

Following their decisions, adopted at the Chisinau Summit, the GUAM Heads of State declared the establishment of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM and signed its Charter.

The Heads of State expressed their confidence that the establishment of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM will ensure achievement of the set purposes and enable to deepen and enhance cooperation of its Member States.

They stressed that the priorities of the future Organization shall be strengthening of the values of democracy, the rule of law, human rights and freedoms, stability and security, combating international terrorism, aggressive separatism, extremism and transnational organized crime, deepening of the European integration and achievement of sustainable development and well-being of their peoples.

The Heads of State particularly emphasized that GUAM is open organization, and any state, sharing its purposes and principles, may join it. They also adopted the Decision concerning the GUAM's partnership with the interested states and international organizations, and approved the relevant provisions.

Annex III to the letter dated 24 May 2006 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

JOINT DECLARATION OF THE HEADS OF STATE OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR DEMOCRACY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – GUAM ON THE ISSUE OF CONFLICT SETTLEMENT

The Heads of State of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine,

Guided by the purposes and principles, enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, universally recognized norms and principles of international law, provisions of the fundamental documents of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the Yalta Charter and the Chisinau and the Kyiv Declarations of GUAM,

Proceeding from adherence to democratic values and aspirations advance further on the way to European and Euroatlantic integration,

Emphasizing the ever growing role of regional cooperation based on mutual respect of the sovereign rights of the states in Pan-European integration processes,

Stressing that such cooperation facilitates advancement of democracy, strengthening of regional and international security and deepening of economic and commercial ties,

Reaffirming the necessity to respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and internationally recognized borders of states, as one of the pillars of maintenance of international security,

Reaffirming also the necessity to develop democracy and respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including persons belonging to national or ethnic minorities, with the purposes of maintaining peace and security, strengthening the spirit of tolerance, ascertaining values of cultural diversity and peaceful co-existence of various ethnic communities within the internationally recognized borders of states,

Recognizing that unresolved conflicts and illegal military presence on the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova undermine the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of these states, impede implementation of full-scale democratic reforms and achievement of sustainable development, jeopardize regional security, negatively impact pan-European integration processes and challenge the entire international community,

Expressing deep concern with regard to increasing security threats emerging from conflict zones, including international terrorism, aggressive separatism, extremism, organized crime and other related dangerous phenomena,

Being deeply concerned of continuing people's sufferings resulting from conflicts and their destructive consequences,

Drawing attention of the international community to the need of conflict-affected states for assistance in restoration of the infrastructure destroyed by military action,

Reaffirming that the root causes of conflicts are multi-faceted by their character and therefore, require comprehensive, complex and stepwise approach to their settlement,

Acknowledging the necessity to intensify conflict settlement efforts and calling upon the states and international and regional arrangements and institutions to further facilitate, within their competence, the processes of settlement of conflicts in the GUAM area,

1. Declare that settlement of conflicts on the territories of the GUAM States shall be carried out exclusively on the basis of respect to sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of internationally recognized borders of these states, and is one of the priority objectives of cooperation within GUAM.

2. Stress that the territory of a state may not be a subject of acquisition or military occupation, resulting from the threat or use of force in breach of the relevant norms of international law. No territorial acquisitions and the resulting self-declared entities may be recognized as legal under any circumstances whatsoever.

3. Remind in this regard about the obligation of states of non-interference with the affairs of any other state and non-exertion of military, political, economic or any other pressure thereupon.

4. Underscore the lack of prospects and malignancy of separatism and disintegration, the incompatibility of the use of force and the practice of ethnic cleansing and territorial seizures with the universal and European values, the principles and ideals of peace, democracy, stability and regional cooperation.

5. Stress in this context the importance of consolidation of efforts of the GUAM States and the international community to settle conflicts on their territories by means of re-integration of uncontrolled territories into the states that they are part of, return of forcibly displaced population to the areas of permanent residency and ensuring peaceful coexistence of various ethnic groups within the internationally recognized borders of the states, development of civil society, restoration of destroyed infrastructure on these territories, and also, use of communications to the benefit of all parties.

6. Especially emphasize the importance of demilitarization of conflict zones and establishment of security in these zones with the help of multinational peacemaking forces deployed therein under UN or OSCE auspices for providing conditions for return of population and peaceful coexistence of ethnic communities.

7. Believe that the status of self-rule for the communities constituting the population of uncontrolled territories that will create the necessary conditions for effective exercise of their rights to equal participation in administration of state affairs, including through formation of legitimate regional authorities at all levels, can be determined exclusively within the legal and democratic process.

8. Welcome the efforts of international community and stress the importance of providing support to GUAM States in the development and implementation of a comprehensive and consistent strategy for conflict settlement based on the above mentioned principles, including short-term and long-term measures aimed at the achievement and maintenance of lasting peace, security and sustainable development.

9. Entrust the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs with the task to develop concrete measures and steps with the purpose of implementation of provisions of this Declaration.

Kyiv, 23 May 2006